

CLAIMS

1. An information processing apparatus for performing at least one of a recording operation and a reproduction operation for an information medium having an information layer, comprising:

a light source;

a convergence lens for converging light emitted from the light source onto the information layer of the information medium;

a light detecting means for receiving reflected light which is reflected by the information layer of the information medium and for generating a detection signal based on the received reflected light; and

a controlling means for controlling light output of the light source based on the detection signal,

wherein the information medium includes a visual information layer capable of recording visibly identifiable visual information, the visual information layer facing the information layer,

the controlling means controls the light output of the light source based on the detection signal, even when the visual information is recorded in the visual information layer of the information medium.

2. An information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein:

the detection signal is a focus error signal, and the controlling means controls the light output of the light source in accordance with a deviation of the focus error signal from a control target value.

3. An information processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

a light output monitoring light detecting means for detecting light output from the light source,

wherein the controlling means controls the light output of the light source, based on the detection signal output from the light detecting means and a further detection signal output from the light output monitoring light detecting means.